

## 2nd ACR escort team controls the road

**Story and photo by Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD**

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- Their day begins before sunrise.

Just as jagged rays of light creep through the morning haze, gunners check their weapons while the drivers start their vehicles. It's time to run another gauntlet.

They are the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment's convoy security detail.

"Our job is to provide security," said Sgt. Rand M. Hultz, convoy escort team chief, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd ACR, Task Force 1st Armored Division. "As convoy security, our job is to be out front where people can see us," Hultz said. "We control the road."

A typical security team consists of a team chief, gunner and a driver. There are four three-man teams in the regimental headquarters, explained Hultz.

As the convoy rolls out the forward operating base gate, Hultz can be heard reminding his driver and gunner to remember to pay particular attention to the overpasses and not to let anything pass them on the road.

"Communication is imperative and we must all think and act alike," he said. "When my driver is moving left to right through traffic, just by the pitch of the vehicle I know exactly what he is trying to do. I can just look at my driver and gunner and see if something is wrong and they can look at me and almost see what I'm thinking," he said.

"When you work that well together there isn't a lot of talking but everyone knows who and where and how," Hultz said.

The driver is responsible for vehicle maintenance, knowing the routes and for completing load plans, said Spc. Dan K. Hartley, security detail driver. "I basically know everything Sgt. Hultz knows as far as pulling security for the front or the rear of the convoy."

"I often use my rearview mirror to look for fast drivers. I have to, I can use my truck as a one and half ton roadblock. It's how we stop speeding vehicles from getting around us," he said.

Some days are better than others. There's always an element of danger every time the team goes out, said gunner Spc. Bendigo P. Agnew.

"When it rains or hails it's bad to be a gunner. When it gets hot in August it's like a blow dryer in your face," he said. "The only real down side is when people throw rocks or you get behind a truck hauling sand. Fortunately, people don't throw rocks anymore."

The team has logged almost 15,000 miles since they first left Kuwait about a year ago, Hultz said.

At their busiest, the team completed three or four missions daily, Hultz said. They would roll seven days a week, starting out at daybreak and returning well after dark.

"Convoys are not just supply runs," he said.

As team prepares to turn their missions over to their replacements, they remain wired-tight until its time to leave, he said.

Throughout their time in country, Hultz insisted that his teams



**Sgt. Rand M. Hultz, security detail team chief, Headquarters, Headquarters Troop, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, locks and loads his weapon before rolling out on one a convoy.**

show respect for the Iraqi drivers they encounter on the road.

"We should consider how to handle people without hurting them," explained Hultz.

Hultz then took this philosophy and turned it into a training plan for the regiment.

Cavalrymen use hand and arm signals to communicate among the team and the vehicles they are escorting. They use the truck as a mobile roadblock to control traffic coming in from behind.

"Everything we trained for was designed to get control of the situation before it escalates into something else," he said. "You have to remember that the Iraqis are a free people and we have a responsibility to consider their customs and courtesies when we are out on the road."

# *The Old Ironsides Report* April 4, 2004

## **NEWS...**

### **Four Killed in Attacks on Iraqi Police**

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Two attacks on Iraqi police south of Baghdad killed four people Saturday, the latest violence directed at local authorities linked to the U.S.-led occupation. Gunmen fired on a vehicle carrying Col. Wisam Hussein, the police chief of Mahmoudiya, 20 miles south of Baghdad, killing him and his driver, police Lt. Ala'a Hussein said. They were returning from the capital.

### **Powell Not Sure Iraq Trailers Were Labs**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Secretary of State Colin Powell conceded Friday evidence he presented to the United Nations that two trailers in Iraq were used for weapons of mass destruction may have been wrong. In an airborne news conference on the way home from NATO talks in Brussels, Belgium, Powell said he had been given solid information about the trailers that he told the Security Council in February 2003 were designed for making biological weapons.

### **Spain Bomb Matches Material From Attacks**

MADRID, Spain (AP) - A bomb found under a train track was made of the same type of explosives used in last month's Madrid terror bombings, Interior Minister Angel Acebes said Saturday, as train service was restored on the high-speed rail line. The attack killed 191 people and injured 1,800.

### **U.S. Moves to Protect Trains, Buses**

WASHINGTON (AP) - A warning that terrorists might strike trains and buses in major U.S. cities using bombs concealed in bags or luggage has the nation's transit systems ratcheting up security measures. Greg Hull, security chief for the American Public Transportation Association, said Friday the transit systems are at "code yellow-plus" following the bulletin about a possible terror plot from the FBI and the Homeland Security Department.

### **Police: Wis. Student Faked Own Abduction**

MADISON, Wis. (AP) - A college student's tale of being abducted at knifepoint during a four-day disappearance has been called a hoax by police, but no motive has been offered for why she may have faked a kidnapping. Police said that University of Wisconsin-Madison sophomore Audrey Seiler lied about being held captive and planted a knife and other items in the marsh where she was found to make it look like she had been abducted.

### **Bush, Kerry Duel Over Economy's Health**

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush sought Saturday to squeeze more political mileage out of news that American employers added the most workers in four years, while Democratic rival John Kerry chose to highlight the still-flat manufacturing sector and blame it on Bush. The president running for re-election and the senator went head-to-head on the jobs issue, each via the traditional weekly radio address for their parties.

## **Entertainment...**

### **Kelly Osbourne Enters Drug Rehab Center**

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Kelly Osbourne, the 19-year-old daughter of heavy metal star Ozzy Osbourne, has checked into a drug rehabilitation center for an addiction to painkillers, her parents said Friday night in a televised interview.

Kelly Osbourne's younger brother, Jack, 18, checked himself into a drug and alcohol rehabilitation clinic last year and Ozzy Osbourne has been candid about his decades of battles with substance abuse.

The siblings became international stars following the success of the MTV reality show "The Osbournes," which shows an oft-dazed Ozzy doting over his dysfunctional family with wife-manager, Sharon. The Osbourne's oldest daughter, Aimee, has not taken part in the show, which returns April 6 for its third season on MTV.

Ozzy, 55, and Sharon Osbourne, 51, talked about their daughter's drug problem Friday night on CNN's "Larry King Live."

Sharon Osbourne said that an English tabloid notified them Friday that they had a photograph of Kelly in an apparent drug deal.

Kelly Osbourne was confronted and eventually acknowledged a drug problem "after a lot of twisting," Sharon Osbourne said.

Ozzy said that his daughter denied having a stash of drugs, but the family's maid said she had found a bag of pills underneath her bed.

"So the bag was delivered to me, and I opened this bag and it was full of pills," he told King.

Within hours, Kelly's brother drove her to the Promises rehabilitation center in Malibu.

When asked on the interview show if she had advice on how to steer children away from drugs, Sharon Osbourne responded somberly.

"I'm a failure," she replied. "How can I give anybody advice?"

The Osbournes said that for every good thing that has happened to their family, there also have been difficulties. Sharon Osbourne announced in 2002 that she was undergoing treatment for colon cancer, which is now in remission, and Ozzy last year was injured in an all-terrain vehicle accident in England.

Jack Osbourne celebrates one year of sobriety April 23, his mother said.

## **Thought for the day...**

### **Self Confidence**

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute," she said.

## ***Today in History...***

### **April 4, 1968: DR. KING IS ASSASSINATED**

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) -- Just after 6 p.m. on April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. is fatally shot while standing on the balcony outside his second-story room at the Motel Lorraine in Memphis, Tennessee. The civil rights leader was in Memphis to support a sanitation workers' strike and was on his way to dinner when a bullet struck him in the jaw and severed his spinal cord. King was pronounced dead after his arrival at a Memphis hospital. He was 39 years old.

In the months before his assassination, Martin Luther King became increasingly concerned with the problem of economic inequality in America. He planned an interracial "Poor People's March" on Washington and in March 1968 had traveled to Memphis in support of poorly treated African-American sanitation workers. On March 28, a workers' protest march led by King ended in violence and the death of an African-American teenager. King left the city but vowed to return in early April to lead another demonstration.

On April 3, back in Memphis, King gave his last sermon, saying, "We've got some difficult days ahead, but it really doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life; longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain, and I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land."

One day after speaking those words, Dr. King was shot and killed by a sniper.

As word of the assassination spread, riots broke out in cities all across the United States and National Guard troops were deployed in Memphis and Washington, D.C. On April 9, King was laid to rest in his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia. Tens of thousands of people lined the streets to pay tribute to King's casket as it passed by in a wooden farm cart drawn by a single mule.

The evening of King's murder, a Remington .30-06 hunting rifle was found on the sidewalk beside a rooming house one block from the Lorraine Motel. During the next several weeks, the rifle, eyewitness reports, and fingerprints on the weapon all implicated a single suspect: escaped convict James Earl Ray. A two-bit criminal, Ray escaped a Missouri prison in April 1967 while serving a sentence for a holdup. In May 1968, a massive manhunt for Ray began. The FBI eventually determined that he had obtained a Canadian passport under a false identity, which at the time was relatively easy.

On June 8, Scotland Yard investigators arrested Ray at a London airport. He was trying to fly to Belgium, with the eventual goal, he later admitted, of reaching Rhodesia. Rhodesia, now called Zimbabwe, was at the time ruled by an oppressive and internationally condemned white minority government. Extradited to the United States, Ray stood before a Memphis judge in March 1969 and pleaded guilty to King's murder in order to avoid the electric chair. He was sentenced to 99 years in prison.

Three days later, he attempted to withdraw his guilty plea, claiming he was innocent of King's assassination and had been set up as a patsy in a larger conspiracy. He claimed that in 1967, a mysterious man named "Raoul" had approached him and recruited him into a gunrunning enterprise. On April 4, 1968, he said, he realized that he was to be the fall guy for the King assassination and fled to Canada. Ray's motion was denied, as were his dozens of other requests for a trial during the next 29 years.

During the 1990s, the widow and children of Martin Luther King Jr. spoke publicly in support of Ray and his claims, calling him innocent and speculating about an assassination conspiracy involving the U.S. government and military. U.S. authorities were, in conspiracists' minds, implicated circumstantially. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover obsessed over King, who he thought was under communist influence. For the last six years of his life, King underwent constant wiretapping and harassment by the FBI. Before his death, Dr. King was also monitored by U.S. military intelligence, which may have been asked to watch King after he publicly denounced the Vietnam War in 1967. Furthermore, by calling for radical economic reforms in 1968, including guaranteed annual incomes for all, King was making few new friends in the Cold War-era U.S. government.

Over the years, the assassination has been reexamined by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, the Shelby County, Tennessee, district attorney's office, and three times by the U.S. Justice Department. The investigations all ended with the same conclusion: James Earl Ray killed Martin Luther King. The House committee acknowledged that a low-level conspiracy might have existed, involving one or more accomplices to Ray, but uncovered no evidence to definitively prove this theory. In addition to the mountain of evidence against him--such as his fingerprints on the murder weapon and his admitted presence at the rooming house on April 4--Ray had a definite motive in assassinating King: hatred. According to his family and friends, he was an outspoken racist who informed them of his intent to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He died in 1998.

# The Old Ironsides Report April 4, 2004

| myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: SUNDAY, APRIL 04, 2004 |   |   |   |   | As of: Saturday, April 03, 2004 7:43:05 PM |            |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|------------|
| Start Time                                     | SPORTS  | ATLANTIC  | SPECTRUM  | PACIFIC   | NEWS                                       | Start Time |
| 00:00  |   | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - THE FINAL FOUR SHOW  | THE DIVISION (TVPG): - REDEMPTION                           | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - THE FINAL FOUR SHOW  | FOX NEWS LIVE                              | 00:00      |
| 01:00  | ESPNEWS   |   | THE PIANO   |   | FOX NEWS LIVE                              | 01:00      |
| 01:30  | HORSE RACING - SANTA ANITA, ILLINOIS DERBY & ADVENTURA STAKES                             |   |   |   |  | 01:30      |
| 02:00  |   | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: GEORGIA TECH VS OKLAHOMA STATE |   | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: GEORGIA TECH VS OKLAHOMA STATE | HEADLINE NEWS                              | 02:00      |
| 02:30  |   |   |   |   | MCLAUGHLIN GROUP                           | 02:30      |
| 03:00  | NHL - ATLANTA THRASHERS @ TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING   |   | SWAMP CRITTERS OF THE LOST LAGOON (TVG): - JOE WRITES A HIT |   | CAPITAL GANG                               | 03:00      |
| 03:30  |   |   | HARVEST WITH GREG LAURIE - THE LONGEST RACE EVER RUN        |   |  | 03:30      |
| 04:00  |   |   | MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD                                   |   | WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW                  | 04:00      |
| 04:30  |   | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: UCONN VS DUKE                  | REAL VIDEOS (TVG): - NIKKI LEONTI                           | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: UCONN VS DUKE                  | HEADLINE NEWS                              | 04:30      |
| 05:00  |   |   | THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - BARTING OVER                         |   | PEOPLE IN THE NEWS                         | 05:00      |
| 05:30  | NHL 2NIGHT  |   | MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE (TVPG):                               |   |  | 05:30      |
| 06:00  | NHL - EDMONTON OILERS @ VANCOUVER CANUCKS   |   | EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - SEASON'S GREETINGS        |   | CNN SATURDAY NIGHT                         | 06:00      |
| 06:30  |   |   | THE KING OF QUEENS (TVPG): - PAPA PILL                      |   |  | 06:30      |
| 07:00  |   | CELEBRATION OF VICTORY - BLESSED BE THE KING  | JOAN OF ARCADIA (TVPG): - THE FIRE AND THE WOOD             | RIGHT ON TRACK  | DATELINE INTERNATIONAL                     | 07:00      |
| 07:30  |   | CORAL RIDGE HOUR - WHEN THERE IS NO VISION  |   |   |  | 07:30      |
| 08:00  |   | CHRISTOPHER CLOSEUP - ART FOR GOD   | AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):  |   | LARRY KING LIVE                            | 08:00      |
| 08:30  | ESPNEWS   | CAFE VIDEO - LIFE ON THE EDGE   |   | SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - YOUR SHOE'S UNTIED / SQUID'S DAY OFF                       |  | 08:30      |
| 09:00  | NBA MATCHUP   | WISHBONE (TVY): - PAW PRINTS OF THIEVES   | AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):  | MOTORWEEK   | AT LARGE WITH GERALDO RIVERA               | 09:00      |
| 09:30  | NBA FASTBREAK   | SESAME STREET SPECIALS (TVY): - LET'S EAT! FUNNY FOOD SONGS                               | THE TWILIGHT ZONE (TVPG): - A GAME OF POOL                  | EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):  |  | 09:30      |
| 10:00  | SPORTSCENTER  | RIGHT ON TRACK  | FANTASY ISLAND (TVG): - BEST SELLER/ THE TOMB               | WWE SMACKDOWN! (TV14):  | BELTWAY BOYS                               | 10:00      |
| 10:30  |   |   |   |   | FOX NEWS WATCH                             | 10:30      |
| 11:00  | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: GEORGIA TECH VS OKLAHOMA STATE |   | SWAMP CRITTERS OF THE LOST LAGOON (TVG): - JOE WRITES A HIT | STARGATE SG-1 (TVPG): - THE OTHER GUYS  | HEADLINE NEWS                              | 11:00      |
| 11:30  |   | SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - YOUR SHOE'S UNTIED / SQUID'S DAY OFF                       | HARVEST WITH GREG LAURIE - THE LONGEST RACE EVER RUN        |   | AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM                      | 11:30      |
| 12:00  |   | MOTORWEEK   | MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD                                   | HEADLINE NEWS   | THE CHRIS MATTHEWS SHOW                    | 12:00      |
| 12:30  |   | EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):  | REAL VIDEOS (TVG): - NIKKI LEONTI                           | ESPNEWS   | NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS                     | 12:30      |
| 13:00  |   | HEADLINE NEWS   | EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - SEASON'S GREETINGS        | JUDGING AMY (TVPG): - MAXINE, INTERRUPTED   | CNN PRESENTS                               | 13:00      |
| 13:30  | MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL FOUR: UCONN VS DUKE                  | AIR FORCE TV NEWS   | THE KING OF QUEENS (TVPG): - PAPA PILL                      |   |  | 13:30      |
| 14:00  |   | MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER - KICKOFF '04: SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES @ DC UNITED                       | JOAN OF ARCADIA (TVPG): - THE FIRE AND THE WOOD             | THE PERFECT STORM   | FOX & FRIENDS                              | 14:00      |
| 15:00  |   |   | AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):  |   | FOX & FRIENDS                              | 15:00      |
| 16:00  | SPORTSCENTER  | SPORTSCENTER  | AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):  |   | CBS NEWS SUNDAY MORNING                    | 16:00      |
| 16:30  |   |   | THE TWILIGHT ZONE (TVPG): - A GAME OF POOL                  | SEINFELD (TV14): - THE PUFFY SHIRT  |  | 16:30      |
| 17:00  |   | WWE SMACKDOWN! (TV14):  | FANTASY ISLAND (TVG): - BEST SELLER/ THE TOMB               | THAT 70'S SHOW (TVPG): - CANADIAN ROAD TRIP   |  | 17:00      |
| 17:30  | NBA FASTBREAK   |   |   | ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT (TVPG):   | FACE THE NATION                            | 17:30      |
| 18:00  | SPORTSCENTER  | STARGATE SG-1 (TVPG): - THE OTHER GUYS  | SWAMP CRITTERS OF THE LOST LAGOON (TVG): - JOE WRITES A HIT |   | HEADLINE NEWS                              | 18:00      |
| 18:30  |   |   | HARVEST WITH GREG LAURIE - THE LONGEST RACE EVER RUN        | AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM   | NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS                     | 18:30      |
| 19:00  | TENNIS - NASDAQ 100 OPEN - MEN'S FINALS   | SPORTSCENTER  | MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD                                   | ESPNEWS   | LATE EDITION W/ WOLF BLITZER               | 19:00      |
| 19:30  |   |   | REAL VIDEOS (TVG): - NIKKI LEONTI                           | NBA HANGTIME  |  | 19:30      |
| 20:00  |   | NASCAR NEXTEL CUP SERIES - SAMSUNG/RADIO SHACK 500  | THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - BARTING OVER                         | NBA - SACRAMENTO KINGS @ HOUSTON ROCKETS  |  | 20:00      |
| 20:30  |   |   | MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE (TVPG):                               |   |  | 20:30      |
| 21:00  |   |   | EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - SEASON'S GREETINGS        |   | FOX NEWS LIVE                              | 21:00      |
| 21:30  |   |   | THE KING OF QUEENS (TVPG): - PAPA PILL                      |   |  | 21:30      |
| 22:00  | NHL - ST. LOUIS BLUES @ MINNESOTA WILD  |   | JOAN OF ARCADIA (TVPG): - THE FIRE AND THE WOOD             |   | FOX NEWS LIVE                              | 22:00      |
| 22:30  |   |   |   | NBA - SAN ANTONIO SPURS @ LOS ANGELES LAKERS  |  | 22:30      |
| 23:00  |   |   | AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):  |   | CNN SUNDAY                                 | 23:00      |